

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace page 11, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

N.E.
A communication management unit (CMU) 20 is coupled to the network signal bus 18 and functions to provide certain content signals onto the bus which have been, in turn, derived from various on and off-board signal sources. CMUs are well understood by those having skill in field of aircraft communication reception and distribution systems and function as an interface nexus between various signal sources and aircraft communication and data signal distribution systems. In the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 1, the CMU 20 is configured as an interface nexus between the network system bus 18 and an on-board source of video and audio content, such as a "stack" of digital video disk (DVD) players 22~~19~~. Further, the CMU 20 provides an interface nexus between the network system bus 18 and a multiplicity of broadband communication devices capable of bi-directional communication with various deployed content providing satellite systems, as well as satellite supported bi-directional voice and data communication systems.

Please replace page 19, lines 12 and 13 with the following amended paragraph:

N.E.
In addition to global connectivity, the CMU 20 is able to interface with a number of on-board audio/video systems, such as a stack of DVD 22~~19~~ players such as are conventionally provided in modern in-flight movie-on-demand systems. The DVD stack 22~~19~~ might include its own internal microprocessor control center 36 which functions to queue up individual DVD players within the stack, and also individual video disks accessible by each DVD player. In this fashion, multiple passengers are able to view any particular one of a large variety of movies at any time, without regard to any external timing constraints.

Please replace page 27, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

N.E. To further this functionality, the CMU 20 of the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 5 suitably includes a network interface device ~~70~~71 that takes information received through the various other interface devices and transfers their content onto the network in accordance with a suitable packet-based communication protocol.